

## Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----070415Z 094894 /62  
O 061345Z APR 77 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0938

S E C R E T BRASILIA 2689

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC, PFOR  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 67973 (B) BRASILIA 2479 (C) STATE 73711  
(D) ELTZ-RUSER TELECONS 3/4

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY HAS BRIEFED GOB ON PRESIDENT'S FORTHCOMING NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT. MESSAGE REPORTS CABRAL DE MELLO'S REACTION.

2. ON APRIL 5, ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR CALLED ON AMBASSADOR CABRAL DE MELLO TO MAKE ORAL PRESENTATION PURSUANT TO REFTELS -, B, AND C. CABRAL DE MELLO LISTENED ATTENTIVELY BUT SOON CALLED IN A STAFF AIDE WHO MADE VERBATIM RECORD OF COUNSELOR'S PRESENTATION. AT VARIOUS POINTS (SUCH AS THE FOUR US DOMESTIC DECISIONS, THE TWO ELEMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL CYCLE PROGRAM AND THE THREE APPROACHES TO STRENGTHENING NON-PROLIFERATION), CABRAL DE MELLO STOPPED AND WENT OVER THE TEXT A SECOND TIME TO ENSURE A FULL UNDERSTANDING IN ENGLISH AND PORTUGUESE. AT THE END, CABRAL DE MELLO THANKED COUNSELOR AND SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH IF HE HAD ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS.

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EM PRINCIPAL POINTS WHICH EMERGED WERE:

A. CABRAL DE MELLO SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN THE MANNER IN WHICH PRESIDENT WOULD RELEASE STATEMENT, IN PARTICULAR WHETHER PRESIDENT WOULD DELIVER STATEMENT PERSONALLY AND WHETHER HE

WOULD DO SO IN THE FORM OF A PRESS CONFERENCE.  
COUNSELOR SAID THERE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE A  
BRIEFING OF SOME KIND FOR THE PRESS IN WASHINGTON.  
(COMMENT: WE NOTE THAT BRAZILIAN JOURNALISTS IN  
WASHINGTON HAVE BEEN FAIRLY PROMINENT IN RECENT  
PRESS BRIEFINGS.)

B. CABRAL DE MELLO ASKED ABOUT MODALITIES US  
HAD IN MIND FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH INTERESTED  
NATIONS (PARA 3(D), REFTEL A) I.E. WHETHER WE HAD  
IN MIND AN EXISTING INSTITUTION (IAEA), SOME  
RESTRICTED GROUP (I.E. THE LONDON SUPPLIERS GROUP)  
OR SOME NEW FORUM, THEN ANSWERED HIS OWN QUESTION  
BY NOTING THAT FROM THE WORDING OF THE US PRESENTATION  
WE MUST HAVE IN MIND A RESTRICTED CONSULTATION IN  
WHICH "A FEW" MAJOR COUNTRIES, I.E. COUNTRIES BEING  
BRIEFED ON THE PRESIDENT'S FORTHCOMING STATEMENT,  
COULD ENGAGE IN "INFORMAL" DISCUSSIONS. COUNSELOR  
NOTED THAT HE COULD NOT ELABORATE ON THE PRESENTATION  
BUT (PARAPHRASING PARA 3(G)) THAT THE USG WAS INTERESTED  
IN COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS, AS PART OF DEVELOPING A  
MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK. (COMMENT: IT IS OF SOME  
INTEREST HOW QUICKLY CABRAL DE MELLO DISCARDED THE  
IAEA, THEN FOCUSED ON THE LONGON SUPPLIERS' GROUP,  
"THE ONLY SUCH EXISTING RESTRICTED GROUP", IN HIS  
WORDS. EMB OFFICER DELIBERATELY AVOIDED FOLLOWING  
UP CABRAL DE MELLO'S COMMENT.)

C. DURING THE PRESENTATION OF PARA 3D (REFTEL A),  
CABRAL DE MELLO PAUSED, THEN REPEATED THE WORD  
"NATIONS". COUNSELOR REPEATED THE PASSAGE,

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THEN -- IN AN ASIDE -- COMMENTED THAT THIS WORDING  
WAS DROWN FROM A CIRCULAR MESSAGE FOR EMBASSIES  
IN THE COUNTRIES BEING CONSULTED ON THE PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE. (COMMENT: WE HAVE EVIDENCE -- INCLUDING  
DIRECT COMPLAINTS -- THAT SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY  
OFFICIALS BELIEVE USG, IN ITS CORRESPONDENCE,  
DELIBERATELY AVOIDS REFERRING TO THE GOB BY NAME,  
INSTEAD USING "BRAZIL OR SOME OTHER VAGUE TERM".  
THAT SUCH A SUPPOSITION WOULD BE GIVEN SERIOUS  
CREDENCE IS, OF COURSE, A REFLECTION OF THE SUSPICIONS  
AMONG SOME OF THE SENIOR LEVELS OF THE GOB  
ABOUT US OBJECTIVES AND THE UNCERTAINTY AMONG THESE OFFICIALS  
OVER THE COURSE OF US-BRAZILIAN RELATIONS AND THE PROSPECTS  
FOR THE NUCLEAR ISSUE.)

3. CABRAL DE MELLO SPENT SOME TIME PROBING  
THE WORK PROGRAM OF THE IFCEP, THE DISTINCTION BE-  
TWEEN WORK ON FUEL CYCLES AND THE ASSURANCE OF  
ACCESS TO FAEL SUPPLIES. HE WONDERED WHETHER THESE  
EFFORTS WERE INTENDED TO BE SEQUENTIAL. COUNSELOR

SAID THAT WHILE TAKING THE TEXT LITERALLY THIS POSSIBILITY WAS NOT PRECLUDED, THERE REALLY WAS NOTHING IN THE TEXT TO SUPPORT SUCH AN INTERPRETATION. WHILE THE EMBASSY HAD NO EXPLICIT GUIDANCE ON THIS, IT WOULD SEEM THAT WORK IN BOTH AREAS COULD GO FORWARD SIMULTANEOUSLY AND IN PARALLEL.

F. NOTING THE PASSAGE ON STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING THE IAEA, CABRAL DE MELLO SAID "THAT IS GOOD". (COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY PASSAGE WHERE CABRAL DE MELLO OFFERED A VERY DEFINITE POSITIVE REACTION. THIS RESPONSE IS CONSISTENT WITH BRAZIL'S EMPHASIS THAT SAFEGUARDS, AS OPPOSED TO RESTRAINTS, ARE THE SOLUTION, AND ITS STRESS ON THE MODEL COMPREHENSIVE NATURE OF ITS SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH THE IAEA.)

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009